Control of Hazardous Energy Policy

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1.0 Policy/Procedure

The control of Hazardous Energy is required before servicing, repair, maintenance, inspection or exposure to equipment or areas where a hazard may be presented by uncontrolled energy, including the flow of solids, liquids or gases into confined spaces or environments.

All employees who will be working on equipment where the unexpected energizing, start-up or release of hazardous energy could cause injury shall follow a **Lockout/Tagout** (LO/TO) procedure that follows the NC-OSHA 29 1910.147.

Lockout is the process of blocking the flow of energy from a power source to a machine or piece of equipment and keeping it blocked out.

Lockout is accomplished by installing a lockout device at the power source or energy supply so that equipment cannot be operated and liquids, gases or solids cannot be allowed to flow. A lockout device is a lock, block, or chain that secures a switch, valve, or lever in the off position. Locks are provided by your supervisor and can be used only for lockout purposes.

Tagout is accomplished by placing a tag on the power source. The tag acts as a warning not to operate or restore energy. Tags must clearly state: DO NOT OPERATE, and must be applied by hand.

Removal of Equipment or System from Service

This procedure shall include the following steps:

- Preparation for shutdown (including notification of affected employees).
- Equipment or system shutdown
- Equipment or system isolation
- LO/TO Device Application
- Dissipation of Stored Energy
- Verification of Isolation

Release from Lockout/Tagout

- Make sure tools and materials have been cleared away
- Inspection Notification of Employees
- Removal of LO/TO Device(s)
- Operation of Energy Isolation Devices

Contact your supervisor for training in LO/TO procedures, locks, and tags.